



03500.017134

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
HIDEHISA MAKITA, ET AL.)
Application No.: 10/658,387)
Filed: September 10, 2003)
For: SOLAR CELL)
MODULE-MOUNTING)
STRUCTURE AND SOLAR)
CELL MODULE ARRAY : December 15, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of Reference (4) is enclosed.

- (1) U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0008143
- (2) U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0195138
- (3) U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0000566
- (4) Japan 5-57857

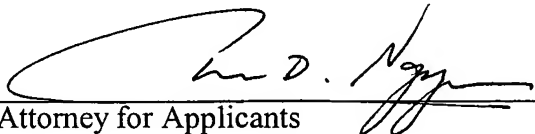
Reference (4) was discussed at page 2 to 3 of the specification and might be deemed pertinent for the reasons given there. An English-language abstract for reference (4) is also enclosed.

No copies of the cited U.S. Patents are being provided, in accordance with the Pre-Official Gazette Notice dated July 11, 2003, entitled "Information Disclosure Statements Filed Without Copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications in Patent Applications filed after June 30, 2003."

Inasmuch as the subject application has not yet received a first Office Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,


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| FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) | | | ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.017134. | | APPLICATION NO. 10/658,387 | | |
| APPLICANT HIDEHISA MAKITA, ET AL. | | | FILING DATE September 10, 2003 | | GROUP NYA | | |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| *EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
| | | 2001/0008143 | 09/19/01 | Sasaoka et al. | 136 | 244 | |
| | | 2002/0195138 | 12/26/02 | Itoyama et al. | 136 | 251 | |
| | | 2003/0000566 | 01/02/03 | Matsushita et al. | 136 | 244 | |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
| | | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT |
| | | 5-27857 | 03/09/931 | Japan | | | Abstract |
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| OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | | | | | | |
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| EXAMINER | | | | DATE CONSIDERED | | | |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1